

*Attach to Carney letter
in JIC file*

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Chief, Staff Intelligence Group

24 May 1949

Chief, Global Survey Group

Comment on Para. 2, Letter from Admiral Carney, Chairman, JCS
Budget Advisory Committee

Reference: Memorandum from AD/ORE, 23 May 1949

Presumably the United States force requirements and other (budget) estimates referred to are predicated in part on specific intelligence estimates of foreign capabilities and intentions. Admiral Carney requests a logical impossibility in asking of us an evaluation of the reliability of these estimates, which are unknown to us and unspecified by him. An evaluation of the scope and reliability of US foreign intelligence in general will not meet his requirement, but, on the contrary, could prove decidedly misleading by applying to the specific estimates he has in mind findings which are essentially inapplicable to specific cases. Nor can any valid result be accomplished by our G-2-ing the Joint Staff and supposing what specific intelligence estimates may underly force requirement and budget estimates which are themselves unknown to us. No meaningful answer can be given until Admiral Carney specifies the intelligence estimates to which he refers, or at least those among them deemed critical. It would then be a relatively simple matter to give him an evaluation of the scope and reliability of the intelligence information on which they are based.

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cc AD/ORE

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